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GARSTANG
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1968

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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Chairman of the Council:
COUNCILLOR R. WHITTINGHAM,

Public Health Committee:
THE WHOLE OF THE MEMBERS OF
THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman:
COUNCILLOR J. PRESTON, J.P.

Vice-Chairman:
COUNCILLOR D. H. JONES

Clerk of the Council:
T. GORTON, F.I.A.C.

Medical Officer of Health (Part Time):
ANDREW B. TAYLOR, M.B., Ch.B.

Chief Public Health Inspector:
A. SMITHSON, C.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., A.M.INST.P.C.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:
F. C. WESTON, C.R.S.H.
J. H. COOKSON, C.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Clerk:
Mrs. A. NELSON

ANNUAL REPORT

of the Medical Officer of Health

for the Year 1968

To the Chairman and Members of the
Garstang Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my twenty-eighth Annual Report, together with the vital statistics relating thereto.

The general health of the residents in this large rural area continues to be satisfactory. There has been a considerable increase in the population during the year, the majority of whom have come to reside in the district from other areas.

The population showed an increase of 620 over the 1967 figures, and the Registrar General's estimated population was 16,990.

During the year 271 births were recorded, a decrease of 13 on the previous year. The birth rate of 18.6 compared most favourably with the rate for England and Wales, namely 16.9.

There was an increase in the number of deaths from 196 to 203, with a corresponding increase in the death rate from 12.2 to 12.4. The death rate for England and Wales was 11.9. Over 76% of deaths from all causes were of persons 65 years of age and over. Heart disease was again the most common cause of death. The number of deaths from cancer (45) showed an increase of 15 on the previous year—the death rate from this cause was 2.65 as compared with 2.32 for England and Wales. There were no maternal deaths nor deaths from tuberculosis.

There was a marked increase in the number of Infectious Diseases from 127 to 291. This was due to an outbreak of measles of which there were 253 cases. There was a mild outbreak of dysentery at one of the schools. Notification of Infective Jaundice became operative in June and three cases were notified.

The number of new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis showed a marked increase—7 new cases were notified during the year.

Provision of bungalows for the elderly continues to be made. Nineteen were completed at Garstang and proposals are in hand for a further 29 in two other parishes.

The sewerage schemes for Hambleton, Stalmine and Pilling, which were commenced in 1964, are now virtually completed, and it is estimated that they will cost in the region of £590,000.

I would like to express my thanks to the Chief Public Health Inspector and staff of the Health Department, and also to the Clerk of the Council for their co-operation and assistance during the year.

I remain, Yours faithfully,

ANDREW B. TAYLOR,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Position .. Latitude 53° 54″ North. Longitude 2° 47″ West.

Elevation above sea level .. 0 feet to 1,675 feet.

Geological formation .. Eastern Highlands—Millstone grit. Western Lowlands—Glacial clay on triassic sandstone with patches of alluvium.

Chief Industries carried on in the area .. Mainly Agriculture and Poultry; Egg Packing and Poultry Dressing; Milk Processing and Cheese Making; Textile Manufacturing; Paper Making; Pre-Cast Products and Gravel Workings.

Area (Acres)	57,491
Population, Census 1961	14,379
Registrar-General's Estimated mid-year Home Population, 1968 ..	16,990
Density of population per acre	.29
Number of Inhabited Houses at the end of 1968 according to Rate Books	5,740
Average number of persons per house	3.0
Rateable Value	£503,862
Sum represented by a penny rate	£2,210

VITAL STATISTICS

		Total	*Male*	*Female*
Live Births	Legitimate	258	125	133
	Illegitimate	13	6	7
		271	131	140
Still Births	Legitimate	1	1	—
	Illegitimate	—	—	—
Deaths		203	102	101

Infant Deaths

		Total	*Male*	*Female*
Under 1 Week	(Legitimate) ..	—	—	—
	(Illegitimate) ..	—	—	—
Under 4 Weeks	(Legitimate) ..	1	1	—
	(Illegitimate) ..	—	—	—
Under 1 Year	(Legitimate) ..	1	1	—
	(Illegitimate) ..	—	—	—

COMPARATIVE RATES

Year	Population	BIRTHS							DEATHS					
		Live		Illegitimate		Still		Total Live & Still	All Causes		Tuberculosis All Forms		Cancer	
		Number	Rate (a)	Number	Rate (b)	Number	Rate (c)		Number	Rate (a)	Number	Rate (a)	Number	Rate (a)
1968	16990	271	18.6*	13	4.8	1	4	272	203	12.4*	0	—	45	2.65
1967	16370	284	20.1*	6	2.1	6	21	290	196	12.2*	0	—	30	1.83
1966	16130	272	18.2*	12	4.4	4	14.5	276	210	12.7*	1	0.06	38	2.36
1965	15820	275	18.8*	10	3.6	5	17.9	280	197	11.8*	0	—	29	1.83
1964	15430	267	18.7*	10	3.7	6	22	273	188	12.1*	1	0.06	30	1.94
1963	15060	299	21.4*	12	4.0	1	3.3	300	178	11.7*	0	—	18	1.2
Average for 5 Years	15762	279	19.4*	10	3.6	4.2	15.7	284	194	12.1*	0.4	0.02	29	1.83

Crude Birth Rate 16.0* Adjusted 1968 (Comparability Factor 1.16) — 18.6 per 1,000.
Crude Death Rate 11.9* Adjusted 1968 (Comparability Factor 1.04) — 12.4 per 1,000.

(a) Rate per 1,000 population.
(b) Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total Live Births.
(c) Rate per 1,000 total Live and Still Births.

Year	INFANT DEATHS							Maternal Mortality	
	No.	Infant Death Rate (d)	Legitimate Infant Death Rate (e)	Illegitimate Infant Death Rate (f)	Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (d)	Early Neo-Natal MortalityRate (d)	Perinatal Mortality Rate (g)	No.	Rate
1968	1	4	3.9	0	4	0	4	0	—
1967	5	18	17.9	0	11	11	31	0	—
1966	7	25.7	23.1	83.3	22.1	22.1	36.2	0	—
1965	6	21.8	22.6	0	10.9	10.9	28.6	1	3.57
1964	3	11.2	11.6	0	7.5	7.5	29.3	0	—
1963	2	6.7	7.0	0	0	0	3.3	0	—
Average for 5 Years	4.6	16.7	16.4	16.6	10.3	10.3	25.7	0.2	0.7

(d) per 1,000 total Live Births. (e) per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births. (f) per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births. (g) per 1,000 Live and Still Births.

CAUSES OF DEATH

	Males	*Females*	*Total*
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	2	3	5
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	7	3	10
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	—	4	4
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	—	1	1
Leukaemia	—	1	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc.	11	13	24
Diabetes Mellitus	—	3	3
Other Endocrine, etc., Diseases	—	1	1
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	4	1	5
Hypertensive Disease	2	3	5
Ischaemic Heart Disease	28	23	51
Other Forms of Heart Disease	5	7	12
Cerebrovascular Disease	17	14	31
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	2	7	9
Influenza	1	—	1
Pneumonia	5	4	9
Bronchitis and Emphysema	6	3	9
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	—	1	1
Peptic Ulcer	2	1	3
Appendicitis	—	1	1
Other Diseases of Digestive System	—	1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	—	1
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	1	—	1
Congenital Anomalies	1	—	1
Symptoms and Ill-Defined Conditions	3	1	4
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	1	2
All Other Accidents	2	4	6
All Other External Causes	1	—	1
Total All Causes	102	101	203

DEATHS—AGE GROUPS

	Male	*Female*	
Under 4 Weeks	1	—	.5%
4 Weeks and Under 1 Year	—	—	—
1—4 Years	—	2	1.0%
5—14 Years	—	1	.5%
15—24 Years	—	1	.5%
25—34 Years	—	—	—
35—44 Years	2	—	1.0%
45—54 Years	6	6	5.9%
55—64 Years	15	14	14.3%
65—74 Years	32	27	29.0%
75 and Over	46	50	47.3%
Total	102	101	100%

Cancer

There were 45 deaths from malignant neoplasms of which 10 were due to cancer of the lung and bronchus. The death rate from cancer was 2.65 against 2.32 for England and Wales.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1968.
Total Cases Notified and Ages.

Disease	Total No. of Cases	Under 1	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—	10—	15—	25—	45—	65 and over	Cases removed to Hospital
Measles	253	2	27	36	36	34	105	8	3	2	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever	5	..	..	2	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough	2	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dysentery	28	..	..	2	4	..	15	1	..	6	..	..	..
Infective Jaundice	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	..
Totals	291	2	28	40	42	34	121	10	4	8	1	1	—

TUBERCULOSIS

	Pulmonary		*Non-Pulmonary*	
	M.	*F.*	*M.*	*F.*
Number on Register 1-1-68 . . .	20	4	—	2
New Cases	5	1	—	1
Inward Transfers	1	—	—	—
Recovered	—	1	—	1
Deaths	—	—	—	—
Outward Transfers	—	—	—	—
Number on Register 31-12-68 . . .	26	4	—	2

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

The rural district is under the administration of two Divisions of the County Council, namely:—

Health Division 3: Parishes of:—

Hambleton	Out Rawcliffe Stalmine	Pilling

Health Division 4: Parishes of:—

Barnacre-with-Bonds	Bilsborrow	Bleasdale
Cabus	Catterall	Claughton
Forton	Garstang	Gt. Eccleston
Inskip-with-Sowerby	Kirkland	Myerscough
Nateby	Nether Wyresdale Winmarleigh	Upper Rawcliffe-with-Tarnacre

Health Services

The general health services, including ante-natal, midwifery, school clinics, health visiting, home helps, etc., are administered by the County Council and are satisfactory.

Tuberculosis Dispensaries and Venereal Disease Treatment Centres are under the administration of the Regional Hospital Board.

Hospital Accommodation.

There are no hospitals in the area. Cases are sent to Preston, Lancaster, Blackpool, etc.

The district is provided with hospital accommodation for smallpox at Bury and for Infectious diseases at Preston, Blackpool and Lancaster.

Ambulance Service.

This service is also under the control of the Lancashire County Council, with headquarters at Broughton, near Preston, and ambulance stations at Thornton, Fleetwood and Lancaster.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, S.47.

Number of applications made during the year	Nil
Number of Orders made	Nil

Laboratory Facilities.

Swabs, specimens of sputum, etc., and samples of milk, ice-cream, water, and other foods for bacteriological and biological examination are submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Preston.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR 1968

COUNCIL OFFICES,
GARSTANG.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Garstang Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my annual report of the sanitary circumstances of your District for the year 1968.

Water Supply

The District is well supplied with water from the Fylde Water Board. Almost 97 per cent. of the dwelling houses (5,558) have an internal supply from this source and the occupiers of four houses have an outside supply. This is mainly upland surface water which was supplemented for part of the year with 111.276 million gallons from the 30″ borehole at Garstang; this is a harder water than the upland supply. The supply is tested regularly by the Board and this department with excellent results. The fluoride content is less than 0.1 parts per million.

Three hundred and nineteen new houses and six houses previously supplied from private sources were connected to the mains in 1968.

Twelve houses receive an internal supply from the Manchester Corporation Thirlmere supply, and this was also found to be highly satisfactory.

The remainder of the houses (166) derive their supplies from wells and springs. The majority of these dwellings are situated in parishes where a public mains supply is not readily available.

The total number of houses with an internal piped water supply from all sources is 5,721 (99.7 per cent.).

Fifty-Five samples were obtained from private supplies, of which 45 were found to be satisfactory and 10 unsatisfactory.

During the year, the Board laid 4,731 yards of new mains in the district.

Details of Water Supplies to Dwelling Houses at 31.12.68.

PARISH	No. of Houses	FYLDE		TH.	Est'd Pop'n	PRIVATE SUPPLIES Burdock	Cl.	Others		Est'd Pop'n
		In	C.	In		In	In	In	Out	
Barnacre-with-Bonds	403	358	—	2	1041	16	—	25	2	129
Bilsborrow	129	129	—	—	353	—	—	—	—	—
Bleasdale...	49	12	—	—	17	—	—	35	2	111
Cabus	317	317	—	—	1119	—	—	—	—	—
Catterall...	441	440	—	—	1346	—	—	1	—	2
Claughton	157	107	—	—	315	—	39	9	2	150
Forton	391	380	—	1	1083	—	—	3	7	30
Garstang...	1198	1198	—	—	3257	—	—	—	—	—
Great Eccleston...	340	340	—	—	932	—	—	—	—	—
Hambleton	432	431	1	—	1296	—	—	—	—	—
Inskip-with-Sowerby	157	157	—	—	447	—	—	—	—	—
Kirkland...	101	100	—	—	296	—	—	1	—	4
Myerscough	193	191	1	—	592	—	—	1	—	2
Nateby	88	88	—	—	259	—	—	—	—	—
Nether Wyresdale	205	176	—	9	437	—	—	19	1	60
Out Rawcliffe	176	176	—	—	568	—	—	—	—	—
Pilling	454	451	—	—	1364	—	—	2	1	9
Stalmine	253	253	—	—	956	—	—	—	—	—
Upper Rawcliffe-with-Tarnacre	166	166	—	—	510	—	—	—	—	—
Winmarleigh	90	88	2	—	305	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	5740	5,558	4	12	16493	16	39	96	15	497

KEY : TH.—Thirlmere supply. CL.—Claughton supply. F. —Fylde supply.
P. —Private supply. C. —Fylde Carried.

TYPICAL CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF THE FYLDE WATER SUPPLY

	Winter Supply	*Summer Supply*
Appearance	Clear & bright	Clear & bright
Colour (Hazen p.p.m.Pt) ...	5	4
Turbidity (p.p.m. Silica) ...	Nil	Nil
Odour	Nil	Nil
Taste	Normal	Normal
Reaction pH Value	8.0	7.6
	p.p.m.	
Residual Chlorine	0.15	0.15
Free & Saline Ammonia as N^2	0.03	0.03
Albuminoid Ammonia as N^2	0.06	0.06
Nitrous Nitrogen as N^2 ...	Nil	Nil
Nitric Nitrogen as N^2 ...	0.62	0.10
Oxygen absorbed 4hrs. at 27°C	0.38	0.39
Free Acidity as CO^2	Less than 5	Less than 5
Carbonate Hardness as $CaCO^3$	16	64
Total Hardness as $CaCO^3$ ...	32	78
Non-Carbonate Hardness as $CaCO^3$	16	14
Excess Alkalinity as Na^2CO^3	Nil	Nil
Calcium as $CaCO^3$	24	60
Magnesium as $CaCO^3$ ...	8	18
Total Solids dried at 180°C ...	76	130
Chloride as Cl	13	16
Sulphate as SO^4	19	16
Lead as Pb	Less than 0.05	Less than 0.05
Manganese as Mn	Nil	Nil
Copper as Cu	Nil	Nil
Iron as Fe	0.10	0.04
Aluminium as AL ...	0.08	0.02
Fluoride as F.	Less than 0.10	Less than 0.10

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

Barnacre-with-Bonds. Calder Vale—sewers and treatment works. Bonds/Bowgreave—the properties in this area are connected to the main Garstang sewerage scheme. The majority of the other dwellings are isolated from any sewers and in the main are provided with septic tanks.

Bilsborrow and Myerscough. The majority of the premises in these parishes are connected to the modern treatment plant at Barton. The scheme being a joint one with the Preston Rural District Council.

Cabus, Catterall, Kirkland. The majority of the houses in these parishes are connected to the Garstang main sewerage scheme.

Claughton. Part of the Parish is connected to the main Garstang scheme and the majority of the remaining houses have septic tanks.

Forton. Modern treatment works have been provided for the 'built-up' areas of this parish, including the motorway service station. Most of the remaining properties are provided with septic tanks.

Garstang. The whole of this parish is sewered to the treatment works at Churchtown. Extensions to these works are proposed to provide for the increase volume of sewage from this rapidly developing area and also to accommodate the proposed schemes for Great Eccleston, St. Michaels and Little Eccleston.

Great Eccleston. The whole of the urbanised part of the parish is sewered but the sewage is discharged, untreated into the River Wyre. The Council are at present awaiting Ministry approval in respect of a joint scheme with the Fylde R.D.C. for the sewering of the parishes of Great Eccleston (part), St. Michael's and Little Eccleston (Fylde) and conveying the sewage from these parishes to the main disposal works at Churchtown. This scheme is estimated to cost £490,000 (Garstang £420,000; Fylde £70,000).

Hambleton, Stalmine and Pilling. These schemes, which were commenced in 1964, are now virtually complete and are estimated to cost £590,000.

Inskip. Mainly septic tanks, except for sewers and treatment works for the Council and Admiralty estates. The sewers and disposal works formerly the property of the Admiralty, have been purchased by the council and it is proposed to carry out further sewering developments in this parish.

Nateby, Out Rawcliffe and Winmarleigh. Scattered parishes with no sewers. Most of the houses have septic tanks.

Nether Wyresdale. The village of Scorton is sewered and has a modern disposal plant. Most of the dwellings in the remote part of this parish are provided with septic tanks.

Upper Rawcliffe-with-Tarnacre. Apart from the sewers and treatment works for three small estates, one Council and two private—there are no other sewers in this Parish. For future proposals for this parish see under the heading of Great Eccleston.

DETAILS OF SANITARY ACCOMMODATION 31.12.68

Number of middens	46
Number of closets attached thereto	49
Number of dry ashpits (excluding middens)	—
Number of pail closets	160
Number of fresh water closets	6,496
Number of trough closets	—
Number of waste water closets	—
Number of moveable dustbins	7,611

CONVERSIONS DURING THE YEAR

Pails to fresh water closets	22

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The Council undertake the removal of domestic refuse in all twenty parishes.

Collection of household refuse and salvage is carried out with one side loading and five 'fore and aft' compressing vehicles, manned by nineteen loaders, including drivers.

Refuse is at present disposed of in pits and on low lying farms situated in various parts of the district.

The amount realised from the sale of salvage was £257.4.11.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Public conveniences are provided in Garstang, Great Eccleston, Pilling and Scorton.

Difficulties are still being experienced in obtaining a suitable site for conveniences in Stalmine.

Routine Inspections.

Animal Boarding Establishments	15
Atmospheric Pollution	5
Bakehouses	27
Butchers' Shops	68
Cellulose Regulations	17
Civic Amenities	31
Disinfections	2
Drains/Sewers	319
Egg Packers	13
Factories	173
Fish Friers	14
Food Inspection	47
Food Preparation Premises	330
Food Shops	341
Hawkers	109
Houses:—	
Applications for Council	142
Council	217
P.H.A. and Housing Acts	316
Housing:—	
Improvement Grants	22
Standard Grants	172
Infectious Diseases	262
Infestation and Rodent Control	101
Knackers Yard	25
Markets	44
Milk Supplies	28
Miscellaneous	373
Moveable Dwellings	303
Noise Abatement	6
Petroleum Regulations	185
Ice Cream	75
Poultry Pluckers	119
Public Cleansing	311
Public Conveniences	192
Sampling	280
Schools	34
Shops and Offices	540
Slaughterhouses	530
Swill Boilers	21
Village Halls	13
Watercourses	54
Water Supplies	13
Total Visits	5889

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION.

Number of slaughterhouses licensed as at 31-12-68 2

Number of licences issued to slaughtermen during 1968 .. 23

Summary of Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

Figures in () are those for 1967

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1062 (884)	24 (12)	1 (9)	4318 (3947)	9608 (9013)
Number inspected	1062 (884)	24 (12)	1 (9)	4318 (3947)	9608 (9013)
All diseases except Tuberculosis :					
Whole carcases condemned ...	2 (1)	0 (0)	0 (3)	7 (11)	11 (17)
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	398 (394)	9 (4)	1 (0)	163 (177)	857 (922)
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	37.6 (44)	37.5 (33.3)	100 (33.3)	3.9 (4.8)	9.3 (10.3)
Tuberculosis only :					
Whole carcases condemned ...	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis...	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)

Number of carcases of which some part or organ was found to be affected with cysticercus bovis . . 4 (1)

Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration 0 (0)

Under the Meat Inspection Regulations, charges of 2/6 for bovine animals; 9d. for calves and pigs and 6d. for sheep are made. The amount received in 1968 from these charges was £604 12s. 0d.

POULTRY

There are 10 premises in the area where the business of poultry plucking and/or dressing is carried on. The types of birds processed are mainly broilers and hens. The throughput at these premises varies from 40—33,000 birds per week and 2,230,650 birds were plucked and/or dressed during 1968. 18,478 birds, weighing 66,756 lbs., were rejected either by the firms or the Public Health Inspectors.

In view of the magnitude of this trade and the number and situation of the premises it is impracticable, with the present staff, to carry out a 100% inspection. As suggested by the Ministry of Health, frequent inspections are made and a system of examination by the firms' staff has been arranged.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

Type of Premises	*No.*
General Grocers	68
Greengrocers/Fruiterers	3
Fishmongers	2
Meat Shops	9
Bakers/Confectioners	3
Fried Fish shops	5
Sugar Confectionery/Ice Cream, etc.	11
Licensed premises, Restaurants, etc.	56
School Kitchens	19

All the premises complied with regulations 16 and 19 relating to the provision of sinks, wash basins, etc.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955, S.16.

Type of Business	*No. Registered*	*No. of Inspections*
Ice Cream Manufacture/ Sale	59	75
Fish Friers	5	14
Sausages, Potted and preserved Food— Manufacture	9	68

Unsound Food.

From Slaughterhouses:—

	T.	*C.*	*Qrs.*	*lbs.*
Tubercular meat	—	—	—	—
Non-Tubercular meat	5	4	0	19
From Poultry Premises	29	16	0	4

Special examination of food stocks:—

Type	*Quantity examined*				*Quantity condemned*			
Potatoes	10	19	0	0	10	19	0	0
Canned foods		4	0	21		4	0	21

Condemned meat from slaughterhouses is stained green and then sent either to the local Knacker's Yard or to a Processor. The unsound poultry and potatoes were fed to pigs by a licensed swill boiler. Tinned goods are buried at the refuse tips.

MILK SUPPLY.

(a)	Dairies in the district	1
(b)	Producer/Retailers	31
(c)	Retailers	16
(d)	Shops, selling milk	20

Regular sampling of all supplies is carried out for biological and bacteriological examination and the following show the results of the samples taken:

Raw Milk:—

	No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	No. Void
Tuberculosis	18	17	0	1
Methylene Blue	4	4	—	—

	No. of Samples	No. Satisfactory	No. Unsatisfactory	No. Void
Heat Treated Milk:				
Phosphatase Test	4	4	0	0
Methylene Blue Test	4	4	0	0

Br. Abortus:

One hundred and twenty-eight retail samples were taken, of which five were positive. In addition, 538 individual cow samples were obtained and 34 cows were found to be infected.

These cows were either sold or the milk therefrom pasteurised.

There were 17 Accredited herds within the rural district at the end of the year.

Pasteurising Plants:

One pasteurising plant is licensed by the County Council.

Ice Cream.

During the year 26 samples of Ice Cream were taken. The following is a table showing the respective grading:—

	Made Out of the District	*Made Within the District*
Grade 1	4	16
2	1	2
3	0	2
4	0	1
	5	21

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

During the year, the Lancashire County Council obtained the following samples from within the rural district:

2 Fresh Apples
1 Fresh Pear
1 Coffee & Chicory Essence, Liquid, Sweetened
1 Fresh Grapefruit
2 Cooked Meat
1 Ham
1 Black Pudding
1 Liver Sausage
1 Liquid Paraffin B.P.
1 Tincture of Iodine B.P.
1 Headache Tablet
1 Butter
1 Essence of Anchovies
1 Chutney
1 Honey Spread
1 Cheese
1 Dairy Ice Cream
1 Condensed Milk, Full Cream, Unsweetened
1 French Mustard
8 Ice Cream
1 Sugar
1 Brown Sugar
1 Table Jelly
1 Table Cream, Jelly

66 milks

The County Analyst gave an adverse report on the following samples:—

Sample	*Result of Analysis*	*Action Taken*
Formal Milk	Fat 2.75%. Deficient 8.3% fat.	Producer notified.
Informal Milk	Fat 2.80%. Deficient 6.6% fat.	Producer notified.
Ice Cream	Fat content 4.4%. Should be not less than 5%.	Vendor cautioned and further sample obtained.

SAMPLING OF OTHER FOODS

Eighteen samples, consisting of sausages, meat pies and sliced meats, were submitted for bacteriological examination.

Whilst there are no statutory standards for these types of food, recommended standards have been prescribed by the Public Health Laboratory Service. Eight of the aforesaid samples satisfied the standards and ten had colony counts in excess of the recommended standard.

IMPURITIES IN FOOD

Investigations were carried out in connection with six complaints:

Snail in a bottle of milk.

Oil and rust on loaves of bread in four instances.

Bird dropping on loaf of bread.

The complaints were found to be justified and warnings given in each case.

LIQUID EGG (PASTEURISATION) REGULATIONS, 1963

(1)	No. of egg pasteurisation plants in district, 31/12/68.	None
(2)	No. of samples of liquid egg submitted to Alpha-Amylase test	None
(3)	Results	None

Markets.

A weekly market is held in the Market Hall and in the open air in High Street, Garstang each Thursday. It is under the control of the Garstang Town Trust and is regularly inspected.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957.

Swill Boilers.

Number of licensed plants, 1-1-68	4
Number of licences cancelled	0
Number of new plants licensed	0
Number of licensed plants, 31-12-68	4
Total number of inspections during the year	21

Offensive Trades.

There is a Knacker's Yard situate in the parish of Catterall which serves a useful purpose for a very wide area. The premises are regularly inspected and the business is conducted satisfactorily.

CARAVANS AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS

The following summary shows the number and type of licence issued under The Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960:—

No. of Licences	*No. of Caravans Permitted*	
	Residential	*Holidays*
20	—	1063
15	674	—
31 Individual	19	12
	693	1075

Three licences were also issued under section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936 for individual moveable dwellings.

Approximately 1,590 caravans were stationed in the district during the peak period, of which 432 were being used permanently.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

One justifiable complaint was received from a householder living next door to a fried fish shop. The nature of the complaint was excessive noise from a newly installed extractor. This was remedied by a new seating on the motor.

SWIMMING BATHS

There are no public baths within the area. During favourable weather, bathing is enjoyed by children in the River Wyre. Samples are periodically taken but the bacteriological standard of the water is obviously much lower than that of a controlled bath. The provision of a swimming bath in or near to Garstang by the Council or/and the County Council is desirable, not only for pleasure purposes but in order that all children would have the opportunity of being taught to swim.

On one caravan site, a swimming pool has been provided for the benefit of the caravanners. The water is pumped from a nearby well and receives no treatment, but circulates continually.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

	Offices	Retail Shops	Wholesale shops/ warehouses	Catering establ's/ canteens	Fuel storage depots
Number of premises registered during the year	3	7	2	2	—
Total number of registered premises at end of year	26	61	6	21	2
Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year	30	65	7	22	2
Number of persons employed	129	166	41	277	3

Analysis of Contravention:

Section		*No of Contraventions found*
4.	Cleanliness	4
5.	Overcrowding	—
6.	Temperature	8
7.	Ventilation	2
8.	Lighting	—
9.	Sanitary Conveniences	4
10.	Washing facilities	5
11.	Drinking water	—
12.	Clothing accommodation	—
13.	Sitting facilities	—
14.	Seats (Sedentary Workers)	—
15.	Catering facilities	—
16.	Floors/passages/stairs	12
17.	Fencing	3
18.	Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery	—
19.	Training of young persons working at dangerous machinery	—
23.	Prohibition of heavywork	—
24.	First aid—general	7
50.	Information for employees	14

SCHOOLS

There are twenty-three schools in the rural district and a County primary school in Garstang will be completed in 1969.

Water is supplied by the Fylde Water Board to 21 of the schools. At Bleasdale and Claughton, the supplies are from private sources which are sampled regularly.

All schools are provided with water closets, connected either to the sewers or to septic tanks.

The general standard of the schools in the district is good. Although there is some overcrowding in certain cases, plans have, however, been approved for extensions at a number of these schools.

Each school, with the exception of three, has its own kitchen for providing mid-day meals. The standard of these is very high.

HOUSING.

The number of Council owned dwellings	669
Number of dwelling houses and flats erected during the year:	
Total	319
(i) By Local Authority	21
(ii) By other Local Authorities	—
(iii) By other bodies or persons	298

The Council's housing register revealed at the 31st December, that there were 127 outstanding applications for houses. These were made up as follows:—

22 from persons living in rooms.
16 from persons living in moveable dwellings.
86 from tenants of houses.
3 from single persons.

In addition, there were 112 applications for elderly persons bungalows, of which 87 had been approved by the County Council. Nineteen bungalows, two flats and a communal room were completed and occupied early in the year. It is proposed to build 12 bungalows at Pilling and 17 at Great Eccleston in 1969.

Council houses were temporarily allocated to two homeless families —one whose home had been destroyed by fire and the other damaged by an aeroplane.

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year—

(1) (a) Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	78
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ..	316
(2) Estimated number of dwellings, existing at end of year, occupied or not, which were unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit	28
(3) Number of dwelling houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit ..	31

2. Housing Acts, 1957-64. Houses not included in Clearance Areas:—

	No. of Houses	*Persons Displaced*
(1) Houses demolished or closed during the year.		
(i) Demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure ..	3	—
(ii) Closed	4	8
(iii) Parts of buildings closed ..	—	—

(2) Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 43

3. Housing Acts, 1957-64—Overcrowding:

No case of statutory overcrowding was recorded during the year.

4. Improvement Grants.

(1) Standard	*Owner/ occupiers*	*Tenanted*
1. Number of applications received	22	10
Number of applications approved	22	10
Number of applications refused	—	—
2. Number of dwellings improved	29	6
		£ s. d.
3. Amount paid in grants		3882 0 0
4. Average grant per house		110 0 0
5. Amenities provided (a) fixed bath		30
(b) shower		—
(c) wash hand basin		30
(d) hot water supply (to any fittings) ..		30
(e) water closet (1) within dwelling ..		33
(2) accessible from d'ing		—
(f) food store		15

(2) Discretionary	*Owner/ occupiers*	*Tenanted*
1. Number of applications received	3	1
2. Number of applications approved	3	1
3. Number of applications refused	—	—
4. Number of dwellings improved	2	1
		£ s. d.
5. Amount paid in grants		342 0 0
6. Average grant per house		114 0 0

Number of schemes completed with particulars of grants paid from October, 1955 to December, 1968:—

Type of Grant	Owner/ Occupiers	Tenanted Houses	Council Houses
Discretionary	45 (£7,732)	68 (£14,082)	—
Standard	134 (£11,991)	138 (£17,532)	48

5. Rent Act, 1957.

(a) Application for Certificates of Disrepair:

(1) Number of applications received	—
(2) Number of decisions not to issue certificates	—
(3) Number of decisions to issue certificates, in respect of some but not all defects	—
In respect of all defects ..	—
(4) Number of undertakings given by landlords under par. 5 of the 1st Schedule	—
(b) Applications for Cancellation of Certificates	—

FACTORIES.

1.—Inspection of Factories.

No. on Register	*Inspections*	*Written Notices*	*Prosecutions*
102	184	1	0

Outworkers.

Number on register .. .. None

Defects Found in Factories.

Particulars	Defects Found	Defects Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector	Prosecutions
Want of cleanliness	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ..	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ..	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences:				
(a) insufficient	1	1	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	11	10	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences	—	—	—	—

RODENT CONTROL.

The Council engages one whole-time rodent operator to carry out the functions under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

During the year, 680 infestations were treated for rats and mice.

Verminous Premises.

A number of infestations (ants, cockroaches, wasps, etc.) were eradicated by proprietary insecticides during the year.

PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS.

One hundred and eighty-five inspections were carried out at premises where petroleum spirit is stored. Five new tanks with a total capacity of 4,000 gallons were installed. Twenty-nine existing tanks were tested, four of which failed to test—two were repaired and the use of the other two was discontinued.

Conclusion.

In conclusion, I wish to express my sincere thanks to the Medical Officer of Health, other chief officials, and all members of my staff for their loyalty and valued assistance, and to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their confidence during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. SMITHSON,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

The Preston Herald
Avenham Street
Preston